

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application 2003/0001890 of *Brin* ("*Brin*") and U.S. Patent No. 5,686,957 of Baker ("*Baker*").

Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is not obvious in view of *Brin* and *Baker* because *Brin* and *Baker* do not disclose or suggest detecting multiple communication interactions among multiple individuals present a first environment and a second environment as claimed in amended claim 1. Instead, *Brin* discloses virtual interactions in an on-line chat system used by individuals positioned at user terminals (*Brin*, Fig. 1 and paragraphs 0004-0005) and *Baker* discloses a teleconferencing imaging system that detects speech from an individual and transmits an enhanced view of that individual to a remote location (*Baker*, Abstract and col. 5, lines 32-37). The teleconferencing imaging system of *Baker* covers multiple individuals present at a conference table (*Baker*, col. 7, lines 1-5) but does not detect multiple communication interactions and does maintain an interest thread for each detected communication interaction as claimed in amended claim 1. Instead, *Baker* steers a camera view to the individual in the teleconference that is currently speaking, i.e. a single communication interaction. (*Baker*, col. 1, lines 10-14).

It is also submitted that *Brin* and *Baker* do not disclose or suggest combining captured media data in response to the respective activities of the individuals involved in the respective multiple communication interactions as claimed in amended claim 1. This follows from the fact that *Brin* and *Baker* do not disclose or suggest detecting multiple communication interactions as claimed in amended claim 1.

It is further submitted that one of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the virtual interactions taught by *Brin* into the teleconferencing imaging system of *Baker* because the teachings of *Brin* are directed to using a computer to emulate the real-world interactions individuals (*Brin*, paragraphs 0011 and 0012) whereas the teachings of *Baker* are

directed to eliminating a camera operator in a teleconferencing system (*Baker*, col. 7, lines 20-32).

Applicant also submits that amended claims 22 and 34 are not obvious in view of *Brin* and *Baker*. Amended claims 22 and 34 include limitations similar to the limitations of amended claim 1. Therefore, the remarks stated above with respect to amended claim 1 also apply to amended claims 22 and 34.

Given that claims 2-21, 23-33, and 35-45 depend from amended claims 1, 22, and 34, respectively, it follows that claims 2-21, 23-33, and 35-45 are not obvious in view of *Brin* and *Baker*.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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